

It is my belief that requiring "virtual wiretapping" capabilities for VoIP communications is ineffective and cost prohibitive. The people who are most worried about ensuring the secrecy of their communications will not use VoIP without some form of additional encryption. Any Act which tried to encompass all the different means of providing voice services over the internet invariably will be a detriment to new, innovative communications technologies.

One particular item of concern to me, and other industry members, is that the CALEA requirements, if applied to VoIP, may prevent the natural evolution of layer communications services away from service providers, and into the hands of customers. In a world where the internet is ubiquitous and speedy, there is no need for all communications traffic to be processed by a service provider. In the VoIP case, the extent that the service provider is involved could be as simple as telling the caller where to locate the person they are calling. The rest is provided by equipment owned by the caller and the person being called. In this scenario, the FCC would be mandating that the end users of this telephone system INDIVIDUALLY provide law enforcement with the capability to monitor their calls, using the individuals equipment. This does not seem to be a plausible solution.